

# The Newport Mercury.

L. XXXIV  
No. 4,391.

NEWPORT, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1845.

Established  
A. D. 1759

The Newport Mercury

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY

J. H. BARBER.

No. 133, Thames Street.

TERMS—Two Dollars per annum.

Advertisements not exceeding a square inserted three weeks for \$1, and 17 cents for each subsequent insertion. All advertisements, except where an account is open, must be paid for previous insertion.

No Paper discontinued (unless at the direction of the Editor) until arrears are paid. Single papers six cents, to be had at the office.

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JOB PRINTING,

SUCH AS

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promptly executed, at prices as low as those of any other establishment.

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TEEL PENS; Lead Pencils; Slate

Pencils; Ink Stands; Wafers; Pen

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THAMES STREET,

HAS selected in Boston expressly for

this market, a large assortment of

English and American Cloths suitable for

the Fall trade, consisting of

Plain, Diamond and Double

Wave BEAVERS; Black,

Blue and Fancy coloured

BROADCLOTHS.

A choice selection of Cloths for Panta-

loons, consisting of

Cassimeres, & Doe Skins,

of all colors and Shades.

Vestings

of the newest style, from the latest im-

portations, and every other article called

for from a Tailoring establishment. All

who wish to purchase cheap, are invited

to give him a call.

MOTTO—

The nimble sizer is better than the slow

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Manufactures on the most reasonable

terms, every description of

Fashionable Clothing,

Coats, Pants, Vests, Cloaks, Sacks,

&c., constantly for sale, or will be

furnished to order at short notice, and at

prices lower than can be purchased in town.

CUTTING particularly attended to.

Newport, Sept. 28, 1844.

R. P. BERRY,

SURGEON DENTIST.

Office at Mr. S. Peckham's in

Church street, second house from Thames

street.

REFERENCES.

James V. Turner, M.D.; H. E. Turner, M.D.

David King, M.D.; H. N. Pierce; of New

York.

Holmes, M.D.; L. W. Briggs, M.D.; of

Bristol.

Newport, April 27.—tf.

NEW FRUIT.

Oranges, Lemons, Cocoanuts,

Figs, Prunes, Raisins,

Grapes, Sultanina Raisins,

Apples of every kind,

And a great variety of Nuts, just re-

ceived and for sale at the Confectionary

and Variety Store of

Oct. 2.

T. STACY JR.

## POETRY.

From the Universalist Quarterly for January.

### The Blind Girl.

BY MRS. CAROLINE M. SAWYER.

Crown her with garlands! mid her sunny hair,  
Twine the rich blossoms of the laughing May,  
The lily, snow drop, and the violet fair,  
The queenly rose that blossoms for a day.  
Haste, maidens, haste! the hour brooks no delay—  
The bridal veil of soft transparency bring:  
And, as ye wreath the gleaming locks away,  
O'er their rich wealth its folds of beauty fling.  
She seeth now!

Bring forth the lyre of sweet and solemn sound  
Let its rich music be no longer still;  
Wake its full chords, till, swiftly floating  
round,  
Its thrilling echoes all our spirits fill.  
Joy for the lovely! that her lips no more  
To notes of sorrow tune their trembling breath;  
Joy for the young! whose starless course is o'er  
To sing poems for the bride of Death!  
She seeth now!

She has been dark! through all the weary  
years,  
Since first her spirit into being woke,  
Through those dim orbs, that ever swam in  
tears,  
No ray of sunlight ever yet hath broke,  
Silent and dark! herself the sweetest flower  
That ever blossomed in an earthly home,  
Unuttered yearnings ever were her dower,  
And voiceless prayer that light at length  
might come.  
She seeth now!

A lonely lot! yet oftentimes a sad  
And mournful pleasure filled her heart and  
brain,  
And beamed in smiles—o'er sweet, but never  
glad—  
As sorrow smiles when morning winds com-  
plain.  
Nature's great voice had ever, for her soul  
A thrilling power, the slightest note knew:  
While deeper yearnings, through her being  
stole,  
For light to gild that being's darkened flow.  
She seeth now!

Strike the soft harp, then! for the cloud hath  
passed,  
With all its darkness from her sight away;  
Beauty hath met her waiting eyes at last,  
And light is hers within the land of day.  
'Neath the cool shadows of the tree of life,  
Where bright the fount of youth immortal  
springs,  
Far from this earth, with all its weary strife,  
Her pale brow fanned by shining seraph  
wings.  
She seeth now!

Al, yes, she seeth! through you misty veil,  
Methinks I see her angel eyes look down,  
While round me falls a light all soft and pale,  
The moonlight lustre of her starry crown.  
And to my heart, as earthly sounds retire,  
Comes the low echo of celestial words.  
Like sudden music from some haunted lyre,  
That strangely swells when none awake its  
chords.  
But hush! 'tis past—the light the sound are  
o'er—  
Joy for the taken! she is dark no more!  
She seeth now!

## A Chronological Account

of all material Occurrences from the first  
settlement of RHODE ISLAND.

1782.

(Concluded.)

Provisional articles of Peace were agreed on between Great Britain and the United States, November 30, which were to be inserted in a future treaty of peace, to be finally concluded between the parties, when peace should take place between Great Britain and France.

The number of Regular Troops in the United States service from Rhode Island was this year 481.

Hon. Martin Howard\* formerly of Newport and late Chief Justice of North Carolina died in February at Chelsea (Eng.)

Col. Andrew Balfour, formerly of Newport, was killed in his own house in Randolph County, N. C. in March, by a party of Tories. He was a zealous patriot, Colonel of Militia, and a Representative in the Legislature of that State.

Mr Aaron Lopez† who previous to the Revolution had been the first Merchant in New England, being on his return to Newport from Leicester, (Mass.) where he had resided during the war, was unfortunately drowned in a place called Scott's Pond near Providence on the 28th of May 1782, aged 57.

Hon. Nicholas Cooke‡ who was Governor of Rhode Island, at the commencement of the Revolution died at Providence, September 14, 1782 aged 65 years.

Gen. Charles Lee, of the Revolutionary Army, died at Philadelphia on the 6th of Oct. aged 55 years.

\* Martin Howard, (jun.) was a native of Newport. He studied law with James Honyngman, Esq. the Attorney General, whose daughter he married.—He practiced in the different Courts of the Colony and was for some time a Representative from Newport to the

General Assembly. In the year 1765 having accepted office from the English Government he became an advocate for the odious Stamp Act, which drew on him the vengeance of the people; on the 27th of August a mob assembled and having placed the effigies of Mr Howard and two other obnoxious persons in a cart, they paraded them thro' the streets, with hallooing and their necks. They were then taken to a gallows erected in front of the State House and hung; and in the evening cut down and burned amid the acclamations of thousands. On the day following the mob again assembled and proceeded to the house of Mr Howard, which they destroyed or plundered of every thing it contained, demolishing the windows, doors, &c. Mr Howard was forced to take refuge on board a British sloop-of-war that then lay in the harbor. He estimated his losses at £370 sterling for which he laid his claims before the General Assembly, but never obtained any redress.

Mr H. was appointed by the British Government Chief Justice of North Carolina, and held the place until the commencement of hostilities, when he retired to England.

† AARON LOPEZ, was a native of Portugal and came to Rhode Island about 1746. He settled at Newport and was for many years considered the most eminent and successful merchant in New England. Before the Revolutionary war he owned more than 30 sail of vessels which were employed in the European and West India trades and the Whaling business.—He and his father in law Mr Rivera, were the first to introduce the manufacture of Spermaceti in America.

Being of the Hebrew persuasion, he was the means of upwards of 40 families of Jews, many of them men of wealth and enterprise, settling in Newport who in 1762 built a Synagogue.

In the midst of his prosperity, the Revolutionary war broke out, which put a stop to his enterprise and business; he suffered great losses by the seizure of several of his vessels on distant voyages, and by the deterioration of the remainder, by being laid up for safety.

On the British Army taking possession of Newport, he retired with his family to Leicester (Mass.) where he remained until 1782. On the 28th of May as he was on his return to Newport with his family, he was accidentally drowned in a Pond about five miles from Providence, the accident was occasioned by driving his carriage to the edge of the pond for the purpose of watering his horse, when in an instant the quicksand gave way and immediately enveloped, horse, carriage and rider, in such a depth of water as rendered all attempts to rescue him unavailing. His body was recovered and brought to Newport and entered with every mark of respect in the Jewish Cemetery.

This was removed, in the meridian of life, one of the most eminent and useful Merchants that Newport ever had; his death at the age of 66, may be considered as one of the greatest misfortunes that ever befell the town, cut off as he was preparing to renew his various enterprises and from his extensive business relations, there can be no doubt but he lived, he would have speedily retrieved his losses and greatly contributed to revitalize the business and trade of the place.

Mr Lopez was a man of eminent probity and benevolence, his bounties were widely diffused and not confined to creed or sect, and the people of Newport notwithstanding the lapse of more than 60 years, still venerate his memory.

§ Nicholas Cooke, was for many years a merchant of Providence, previous to the Revolution, he sustained several important offices in the Colony; he was Deputy Governor at the time of the Lexington battle when the Governor Joseph Wanton, being considered as having taken part in favor of the arbitrary measures of Great Britain, was suspended by the General Assembly from the functions of his office, and they devolved on Mr. Cooke, who the next year was elected Governor which he held until May 1778, when he retired to private life, with an honorable testimonial for his services and usefulness, from the General Assembly.

New York and Erie Rail Road.—The Committee on rail roads in the House of Assembly have made a report on the petitions praying for a surrender of the State lien on the road, which has been printed and laid before the members.

The committee after reviewing the legislation on the subject, arrive at the conclusion that the present lien of the State is of no actual value, that it is a material impediment to the company's obtaining the necessary funds to complete the road, and they therefore recommend that the lien of the State be released, on condition that three millions of money are subscribed to the road, and one fourth thereof paid in.—N. Y. Jour. of Com.

The New Orleans Crescent City of the 25th says.—Captain Younes, yesterday evening arrested John Powers upon a charge of stealing thirty eight bales of cotton and receiving \$180 in advance on the same from a broker in this city, who shipped them to New York on his (Power's) account per ship Sultana. He has also been charged with having stolen a slave from her master, a day or two ago, for whom a reward of \$200 was offered. Information was given to the owner of the slave where she was to be found, by a person named Charles Morton, who is also supposed to be concerned in the cotton affair.

Mr Calhoun is said to be about to make a peremptory demand upon the British Government, through Mr Everett, for the delivery of a gang of 8 or 9 slaves who burned a house in Florida, and then escaped to Bermuda.

KILLED BY LIGHTNING.—A man by the name of John G. B. Rose, a seaman, hailing from South Kingston, R. I. was killed by lightning, last Friday week, on board of the schooner Elizabeth, in Mobile Bay.

## Select Tales

From Arthur's Magazine.

### JOSEPH THE FIREMAN.

A TRUE STORY.

BY ALBERT ROWLAND.

I do not know any profession more useful, and the same time more worthy of praise, than that of the fireman. Men who hold themselves constantly in readiness to fly wherever a conflagration is lighted up, or wherever the public voice calls them, performing a thousand feats of valor—confronting, every day, dangers as frightful as present themselves upon the field of battle, and joining to the most daring courage the most noble disinterestedness. These are the true citizen soldiers, and I experience great pleasure in relating the following noble action of one of them:

Amongst the firemen of the faubourg of the capital, Joseph L.—— was as remarkable for his experience in scaling buildings, as for his bold talent of diving, which had procured for him the inexpressible delight of saving the lives of his fellow beings. Fire and water appeared to be the elements in which he was to acquire the reputation of the bravest and best of them.

A fire broke out at night, toward the end of August, 1829, in the vast warehouse of the purveyor-general to the royal guards, and from this building, filled with combustible materials, before its progress could be arrested, reached the sumptuous dwelling of the purveyor, Baron Descarville. Baron Descarville, the father of a numerous family thought only of saving his children, the youngest of whom he soon placed beyond the danger which threatened them. One had been forgotten in this frightful disaster, a pretty little girl, two years of age, who slept in a chamber, the only approach to which, in consequence of the progress the fire had made, was through her father's apartment, which was double locked. The piercing cries of the alarmed child reached the ears of Joseph, who instantly broke down with his axe the door of this room, which was the private cabinet of Baron Descarville, reached the child and bare her to the arms of her father. The Baron offered to recompense him for his dangerous devotion—but the fireman, who had saved the child, declared that he would accept nothing, as he had only performed his duty.

When Joseph mentioned the fact of his having been compelled to break down the door of the adjoining department to reach the child, the Baron suddenly remembered that he had left several articles of value, amongst which was a small pocket book containing forty bank notes of considerable amount. As there was yet time, he hastened to remove them to a place of safety; but, to his great surprise, when he reached the room, he found that the pocket book was gone.—He searched every where with great anxiety, but could not discover no traces of it. Convinced that the notes had become the prey of the fireman, the only person who had entered his cabinet, and determined not to give him sufficient time to dispose of the property, he went immediately to inform the captain of the company of the theft which had been committed. Although it was with great effort he could accuse the young man who had saved the life of one of his children, of a crime, he yielded to the imperious circumstances, and claimed the authority of the officer to obtain justice. The captain, on account of the uniformly irreproachable conduct of Joseph, desired, in so grave and delicate a matter, to proceed with caution. He beckoned Joseph to follow, and conducted him to the apartment where, beside himself, no one was present but the Baron. Joseph trembled and grew pale at the charge made against him. He attempted to speak, but the words died on his lips. As soon as he recovered from the terrible emotion which he experienced, and which, in the eyes of the Baron, seemed a proof of his guilt, he demanded that he should be subjected to the most rigorous search. It was soon clearly ascertained that the pocket book, which he was accused of having stolen, was not in his possession.

'I knew he was innocent!' cried the officer, pressing his hand warmly.

'He grew pale, however,' said M. Descarville.

'It was with indignation,' replied Joseph, with flashing eyes. 'This is an unexpected recompense for the service I have rendered you; but, if I suffer under such an accusation, you will suffer still more; for you will be unable during your life time to take your child into your arms without blushing at the thought of the manner in which you outraged her preserver.'

'I am sure, monsieur le Baron,' added the officer, 'that as to ourselves, you will preserve a profound silence with regard to the strange scene which has just passed.'

'As for me, Captain, I will promise nothing,' replied Joseph gruffly. 'I shall

inform my comrades of the kind recompense we are to expect for our services.'

The fireman, indeed related to his companions the insult which he had endured, and, carrying his hand to his sword, he added—

'If it had not been for Baron Descarville's grey hairs, he should dearly have atoned for this cruel insult; but I had too many advantages over him, and am forced to hold him to contempt.'

The Baron, however, entertained a secret suspicion which he was unable to banish; a month rolled by, and, in his heart, Joseph was still regarded as guilty. He continually balanced in his mind the proofs of his innocence and the combination of circumstances which seemed to establish his guilt. Not less being contented, therefore, to sustain a loss of forty thousand francs, he was thinking of entering a complaint before a magistrate, when his valet-de-chambre, one morning, upon emptying a large sheet iron vessel, standing near his secretary, filled with useless papers, perceived a black morocco pocket book. He opened it hastily, found it filled with bank notes, and immediately informed his master of the joyous discovery. It would be difficult to express the surprise and remorse of the Baron. He went at once to the barracks of the firemen, and begged the officer to assemble them before him. In the presence of all he apologized for the unjust suspicions he had entertained toward Joseph and offered him any reparation he might require. 'All I ask of you, sir, is that, henceforth, you will never accuse a fireman of the least base action, unless you witness it with your own eyes.'

Baron Descarville attempted in vain to induce Joseph to accept some indemnity for the outrage he had suffered, but neither gold nor presents could tempt this honorable man. He was satisfied that his character had been washed of this odious accusation, in the presence of his comrades, who now regarded him with increased esteem and attachment. The name of the purveyor-general came frequently to the mind and lips of the fireman; however, he never spoke of him without a convulsive movement, which showed that he was unable entirely to remove from his heart a certain remembrance of his former master.

Winter succeeded the autumn, and in the many fires which occurred in this rigorous season, Joseph gave new proofs of courage and humanity. But of all his acts of true heroism, which had already excited the admiration of every one, none was so remarkable as that which I am about to relate, and which is strictly true. It proves too, that greatness of soul is to be found in the most elevated classes of the social order.

The winter of 1829, without being extremely rigorous, was long and unhealthy; many of the inhabitants of Paris suffered much from the humid cold, and those sudden changes of temperature which effects the most robust constitutions. But, whilst the great mass of workmen in their humble dwellings were almost deprived of the necessities of life, the opulent were surrounded by all the charms of luxury; invented even in the midst of snow and frost. Amongst the pleasures, the one which youth enjoy with most avidity, is the exercise of skating, in which they are enabled to display all their natural strength and grace. This exciting and dangerous sport is most common upon the canal de l'Ourcoy, and the Bassin de la Villette.

Thousands upon thousands of spectators cover the shore encouraging by their exclamations the audacity of skaters. Some push along in sleds the most fashionable ladies who give themselves up entirely to this passing amusement.—Others, with skill and address, with a single effort, design, on the ice, either a figure, or the loved flower, or the lady of their thoughts. In gazing on this lively scene, it might almost be imagined that the celebrated Russian fetes upon the Neva, in the depths of winter, were passing before us.

But the ice in these northern countries is more firm than it is in our climate, and accidents more rarely occur there. In the course of the winter, after the burning of the house of Baron Descarville, a very remarkable event happened on the Canal de l'Ourcoy. A number of young men belonging to the most distinguished families were assembled at a breakfast given by the vanquished skaters to their rivals of some of the games.—When the feast terminated, they returned to the canal, and each one mounted upon his skates gave way to the promptings of an imagination excited by the numerous toasts which had been drunk. After a thousand feats of strength and address, three of the most excited joined hands and engaged to execute, correctly, the steps of a gallopade, which was, then, fashionable in all the saloons.—They performed indeed the attitudes and motions of the most skillful dancers; but at a moment when the three formed a

circle the ice suddenly broke, and in the twinkling of an eye, they were all buried under the thick crust which covered the surface of the canal. The most heart-rending cries burst from the spectators. Joseph L.——, the fireman, was strolling about at a short distance from the centre of the disaster, and always ready to respond to the cry of distress, rushed to the spot and enquired the cause of the alarm. On being told of the accident which had occurred, he threw off his heavier clothing, and plunged into the opening through which the unfortunate young men had passed. The risk of this attempt may be easily conceived, when it is remembered that this hole offered the only means of egress from under the ice which covered the canal.—In about half a minute, he made his appearance again bearing in his arms one of the young men. He deposited him upon the shore, giving him to the care of the spectators, and again precipitated himself into the gulf, happy to have been instrumental in saving one of three victims. Some minutes elapsed, and nothing was seen of him, but at last he reappeared, alone, saying that he was unable to find any one.

'There are two more,' was shouted on all sides. He plunged in for the third time, and returned with the second skater, motionless and insensible. After having deposited him in the arms of those who were standing around, he plunged in for the fourth time, remaining under water as long as he was able, but appeared at last, with empty hands. His countenance was depressed, and he suffered so much from the cold that he was unable to utter a word.

'Oh! my preserver,' cried the young man he had first saved, 'do not abandon our dear comrade! he belongs to an honorable and opulent family, which will recompense you as you deserve to be.' 'It is a young officer of the royal guards—the son of Baron Descarville!' exclaimed Joseph, with a convulsive movement.

'Yes—the rich purveyor who lives in the Faubourg Poissonniere.'

'Oh! I remember,' replied the fireman, 'he once accused me of having stolen his pocket-book; but I forget that when he

plunged into the canal again, and this time remained under the ice so long that the spectators began to repent of having excited that courage, that sublime devotion which might cost him his life. At last he issued from the hole, bearing the body of young Descarville.

'He is dead! he is dead!' cried Joseph, despairingly, placing his hand upon the heart of the young officer; 'of all the three, I should have experienced most pleasure in saving this one, to avenge myself on his father, and, in placing his son in his arms, to prove—He is not dead—his heart beats—oh, if I could succeed in restoring him to life.'

He extended the inanimate body of young Descarville upon the shore, covered it with his own, glued his mouth to the lips of the young man, and used all his powers to inflate the lungs. He continued his efforts for some time, forcing air into the lungs, and then pressing upon the chest, so as to imitate the process of respiration. Blankets were brought by some of the bystanders, which were warmed and wrapped around him; the region of his stomach was rubbed rapidly with warm clothes, wet with spirit, so as to produce a considerable degree of friction. After these efforts were continued for some time, Joseph had the satisfaction of witnessing signs of restoring life; he then left him and went into a house to change his clothing and make use of restoring animation to his benumbed limbs. Accustomed to such circumstances, Joseph well knew the danger of approaching a fire in his present condition—he sent for a tub of snow, with which he rubbed his limbs and body till a natural reaction took place, the blood was again thrown to the surface, and the skin resumed its healthy functions. As soon as he was able, he returned to the three young men whom he had saved. When they saw him, they seized him in their arms and heaped upon him the loveliest marks of gratitude. The emotion of young Descarville, who felt that he owed his life to the man whose honor his father had suspected, it would be impossible to paint.

'Never,' said he, has humanity prompted to such devotion and heroism before; never has a brother or friend showed such generous courage and perseverance, to save any one from inevitable death.—And you know that I was the son of your accuser.'

'It was even for that reason I felt a greater desire to save you. This is the only means people of my humble condition have of making the great and rich feel that we are of an importance in society.'

'Ah! believe me, my good Joseph, this truth will never be effaced from my memory. I desire to publish every where what you have done for me. I

will

will

will

will

will

will

will

will



will inform your officers of this deed, which, however, will not surprise them, for with you it is not an extraordinary effort, and shall not rest satisfied until you have obtained the just reward for the noble acts you have performed, and for the high virtues which distinguish you.

During the outpouring of the heart, the companions of the young man emptied their purses into a hat, forming together, a sum of five or six hundred francs, which they now came forward to offer to the fireman as a mark of their gratitude and respect, but Joseph taking the hat, threw it upon the shore, scattering the pieces of gold and silver it contained in every direction, crying, as he did so, with noble dignity—

“Do you suppose that I have been actuated by pecuniary interest? All that I can accept of you, gentlemen, is a little refreshment, of which, I confess, I am in great need.”

Hardly had he uttered these words, when he was caught up in the arms of the young men and carried to a neighboring restaurant, where the festival of the morning was renewed; they treated Joseph as their equal, and honored him as a man dear to humanity. Many toasts were given, but that most rapturously received was the following—

“To the respectable body of firemen!” “I accept it in the name of my comrades,” said Joseph, “and I dare assert that they will always show themselves worthy of the honor you do them.”

“Who can doubt it,” said young Descaerville, “when you are the surety.”

The countenances of all were radiant with joy, and his happiness was increased by the appearance of Baron Descaerville, to whom his son had sent word of what had happened. He threw himself into Joseph's arms, and was so much moved that at first he was totally unable to utter a single word. He took the hands of the fireman, those vigorous hands which had saved the life of a loved son, and bathed them with tears. At last, recovering the use of speech, he burst out with—

“And I have been capable of suspecting, of accusing you of crime!”

“Do not say thing more about that, M. le Baron. The blow did not reach my heart, I must confess; but the wound is cicatrized now.”

“It will ever be my remembrance,” replied the baron; and since you will not be recompensed in the manner which is so pleasing and exciting to officious zeal, I shall not rest until you have received that justice which is due to your heroism, and the many valuable services which you have performed.”

A few months after, Joseph received the star of honor from the hands of his colonel, who well knew how to appreciate him, and was soon promoted to the lieutenantancy of the firemen, whom he commanded many years, exciting their warmest affection, and adding to their desire to imitate his example.

**SINGULAR PREDICTIONS OF THE WEATHER.**—February has certainly come in like a lion, and if the prognostications in the annexed paragraph are correct, it is not likely to show much of the lamb in its passage over our heads. Under the head of “atmospherical changes for February,” *Hague's Magazine*, at Philadelphia, discourses as follows:—

“During February four planets, viz: Saturn, Mercury, Mars and Venus, having the same declination, bespeak a singular month for atmospherical changes. The Sun's declination is also south; and during the first week and last three days, the Moon has south declination. The planets Mercury and Venus are in close conjunction all the month. On the 21st and 23d, both planets are in conjunction with Saturn, at the time of the full Moon. This winter will close with heavy falls of snow, high winds, common floods, fatal floods, and severe storms, destructive to navigation. We shall have weather of no ordinary kind for the season, and floods recorded not in the memory of man. I judge Southern countries suffer more than Northern; but all nations will bear witness to sudden, sharp, and keen frost, high, boisterous, sniping winds, with heavy falls of snow and rain.

To make correct daily predictions of the weather this month would be out of the power of the oldest and most experienced meteorologist. We ourselves being young in this department of science, and not having witnessed such aspects of the planets as take place this season, shall not attempt such a task. We would merely say that the first week will be characteristic for turbulent, blustering weather; with sudden fits of frost, snow and rain. The new Moon, on the 6th, a colder change, with frost and winds. Heavy falls of snow, rain and sleet from the 8th to the 10th. Cold and frosty on the 11th and 12th; 13th, changes. Heavy rains, snow and wind from the 14th to 17th. Frequent storms on the 18th, 19th and 20th. The full Moon on the 22d bespeaks soft, unsettled bad weather, till the first of March. Ice dealers will have to be active.

Hon. John Barney, of Baltimore, at the suit of Mrs. Mary Barney, for alleged defamation of character, has been mulcted in one cent damages, by the Baltimore city court. The *ad damnum* was laid at \$100,000. Some of the best ability of the young men of that talented bar were engaged in the case, which excited great attention.

New York Express.

## Twenty-Eighth Congress.

SECOND SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 5, 1845.

**SENATE.**—A message was received from the President relative to the present condition of the Mint.

After the presentation of numerous petitions, Mr. Huntington, from the committee on commerce, reported back the bill prescribing the duties of Collectors of the customs.

Mr. Evans, from the finance committee, reported back the post office, fortification and pension appropriation bills.

Mr. Benton offered the following bill for the Annexation of Texas, withdrawing a proposition—which it will be remembered he presented early in the session, and which embraced a consent from Mexico, &c.

A Bill to provide for the annexation of Texas to the United States.

Be it enacted, &c., That a State to be formed out of the present Republic of Texas, with suitable extent and boundaries, and with two Representatives in Congress until the next apportionment of representation, shall be admitted into the Union, by virtue of this act, on an equal footing with the existing States, as soon as the terms and conditions of such admission, and the cession of the remaining Texan territory to the United States.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted.—That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated, to defray the expenses of missions and negotiations to agree upon the terms of said admission and cession, either by treaty to be submitted to the Senate, or by articles to be submitted to the two Houses of Congress, as the President may direct.

The bill was read a first and second time when a motion was made that it be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Berrien, Mr. Moorehead, Mr. Merrick, Mr. Barrow, and some others advocated its reference to the standing committee. Mr. Benton, Mr. Allen, Mr. Walker, and some others opposed the reference, other than to the Committee of the Whole.—The motion to refer to the standing committee was defeated.—The following was the vote.

Yeas—Messrs. Barry, Bayard, Berrien, Clayton, Crittenden, Dayton, Evans, Foster, Francis, Huntington, Johnson, Merrick, Miller, Morehead, Pierce, Phelps, Porter, Rives, Simmons, Upham, White and Woodbridge—22.

Nays—Messrs. Allen, Ashley, Atchison, Atherton, Benton, Breese, Buchanan, Colquitt, Dickinson, Dix, Fairfield, Hannegan, Haywood, Huger, Jarnigan, Lewis, Niles, Sevier, Sturgeon, Tappan Walker and Woodbury—23.

The consideration of Mr. Merrick's Post Office bill was then resumed. It

**HOUSE.**—The bill to reduce the price of the public lands was debated till one o'clock, when by a vote of 103 to 95, it was laid on the table. This is the last of it.

The Indian appropriation bill was then considered in committee of the whole, without any definitive action thereon.

THURSDAY, Feb. 6, 1845.

**SENATE.**—The Post Office bill was taken up.

Mr. Merrick expressed a hope that it would be voted upon and not talked about, so that it may be finally dispatched this day.

Mr. Buchanan's amendment to the amendment of Mr. Simmons was rejected—yeas 17, nays 24. This amendment allowed members to send five free letters per diem.

The question was then upon Mr. Simmons' amendment, which gave members an unlimited right to frank their letters and speeches. The Senators could not help talking about this, but after they had done, the yeas and nays were called, and the franking privilege was given up by a vote of yeas 18, nays 22.

The yeas and nays were then called upon striking out the ninth section, which provides that members shall have a certain number of free stamps; and this was also done by yeas 35, nays 2.

The next question was upon Mr. Huntington's amendment, which allows newspapers, periodicals, &c. to be carried out of the mail.

Mr. Allen said it was a very serious matter to undertake to legislate upon the liberty of the press—for this was involved in the question before us. The government of France was overthrown in the attempt to obstruct the press.

Mr. Huntington also defended his amendment. After a good deal of discussion, the vote was taken by yeas and nays, and Mr. Huntington's amendment was adopted by 33 to 9.

The bill was then ready to be reported, when Mr. Simmons moved a very important amendment to the first section of the bill, viz. to make one uniform rate of postage for all letters carried in the mail and fixing this rate at five cents. Mr. S. made a very plausible argument in favor of his proposition, and urged that in the present measure, a bold course was a prudent course.

In speaking of the vast increase of social intercourse which would arise from cheap postage, Mr. S. asked what would be the result if Telegraphs were established all over the land, so that a mother could go daily and enquire for the health of her child in a distant region of the country? why, I believe, said he, that there would be a stream of affection running along these wires, such as was

never known, save when “the morning stars sang together for joy.”

After a wearisome discussion, the vote was taken, and Mr. Simmons' bold movement was carried by a vote of yeas 33, nays 14.

Mr. Huger moved a reconsideration of the vote by which it was agreed to make two hundred dollars per mile the maximum of compensation upon Railroads for carrying the mail, and stated that a road between here and Charleston, S. C. could not carry the mail for this sum.

After another weary debate, the vote was taken by yeas and nays, and the point in question was reconsidered by a vote of 34, to 16.

The Senate then went into executive session and afterwards adjourned.

**HOUSE.**—Mr. Kennedy, of Md., appealed to the House to indulge him, by having the resolution submitted by him some time ago, calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for any instructions given by him in reference to duties on wines, &c. The appeal was responded to and the resolution was passed.

The Committee of the Whole resumed the consideration of the Annual Indian Appropriation Bill.

The bill was debated at great length and a variety of amendments were offered, some of which were adopted and others rejected.

During the discussion, quite an acrimonious personal controversy arose between Mr. Black, of Ga., and Mr. Giddings, of Ohio.

The consideration of the bill, before the Committee, was then continued, and after acting on all the amendments, was agreed to. The Committee then rose and the bill was reported and finally passed.

The House then at 4 1-2 o'clock adjourned.

FRIDAY, Feb. 7, 1845.

**SENATE.**—A communication was received from the President, touching the relations between the United States and the Mexican Republic, with a report thereon, from the Secretary of State.

The Post Office Bill was taken up, the question being upon Mr. Huger's amendment, providing that the compensation to be allowed to Railroad Companies for carrying the mail be not more than now allowed. After a long controversy the amendment was adopted; is, also, another amendment, to extend the right of sending letters to members of Congress on public business, free of postage to the people. An amendment proposed by Mr. Atherton to make another rate three cents, for distances less than fifty miles, was rejected—yeas 17, nays 29.

On motion of Mr. Simmons it was then agreed, that whatever free matter was sent through the mails should be paid for out of the various contingent funds of the different Departments.

The bill was further so amended as to leave the franking privilege to the members of the House only, and it was then passed to be engrossed, and ordered to be printed.

**HOUSE.**—A great variety of reports were submitted.

Mr. Barlow from the joint committee to recommend a mode of counting the votes for President and Vice President of the U. S. reported a resolution that both branches of Congress meet in the Chamber of the House of Representatives on Wednesday the 12th inst.—that the teller be appointed, who shall count the votes and that the result be announced by the President of the Senate; which resolution was concurred in.

After acting upon other business of little general interest the House adj.

SATURDAY, Feb. 8, 1845.

**SENATE.**—The bill providing for appeals in certain cases of bankruptcy was discussed by Messrs. Berrien, Haywood, Choate, Dickinson and others; when without taking any question it was temporarily laid aside.

The Post Office Bill was taken up with a view to its third reading, by unanimous consent. The 16th section having reference to franks and envelopes was stricken out. By unanimous consent (objection to embracing Mr. Tyler having been waived) the franking privilege was extended to all ex Presidents of the United States. The question on the passage of the bill was then taken by yeas and nays, and it was passed by a vote of yeas 37, nays 12.

After spending some time in Executive business, the Senate adjourned.

**HOUSE.**—Some unimportant business was disposed of; and the Secretary of the Senate delivered the bill adopted by that body, for regulating and reducing the rates of postage, and to prevent frauds upon the Post Office Department. Adjourned.

MONDAY Feb. 10, 1845.

**SENATE.**—Mr. Choate presented a memorial against the annexation of Texas.

Mr. Bayard reported a bill for the establishment of naval schools.

On motion of Mr. Evans, the Senate took up the three appropriation bills passed by the House some days ago. These bills were severally read a third time and passed, viz: the fortification, pension and post office bills.

The bill for ascertaining claims for French spoliation prior to 1800 was next in order.

Mr. Choate addressed the Senate.—These claims, he said, have been urged for more than thirty years. Of twenty-two reports made upon the subject, eighteen have been favorable; thirteen state Legislatures have also proclaimed the justice of these claims.

Mr. C. then made a succinct statement of the origin of these claims, and summed up with the conclusion that counter claims of France against this Government, but not against these claimants, were paid by a surrender of these claims.

After making a brief and eloquent appeal to the Senate, Mr. C. proposed an amendment which materially alters the bill, by “providing an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to settle these demands, instead of a commissioner to ascertain and report upon these claims.”

Which was agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, yeas 26, nays 15.

Mr. Colquitt gave notice of a bill to remit duties on railroad iron, in certain cases.

The Senate then adjourned.

**HOUSE.**—Mr. Dana, by general consent, reported a bill to graduate and reduce the price of public lands in favor of settlers, and to apply the proceeds thereof—read twice and referred.

Mr. Duncan submitted a resolution directing the committee on public buildings to confer with Prof. Morse on the subject of an improvement made in taking the yeas and nays. It was adopted.

A motion was then made to take up the bill providing for the admission of Florida and Iowa into the Union as States.

An amendment offered by Mr. Duncan of Ohio, in relation to the boundary between Iowa and Missouri, gave rise to considerable debate.

Before the discussion ended the committee rose.

Some further unimportant business was transacted, when the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, Feb. 11, 1845.

**SENATE.**—The War Department transmitted a report from the Colonel of the Corps of Topographical Engineers, respecting magnetic observations made at the Girard College. Also, a communication respecting the copper mineral region of Lake Superior.

The various bills, &c., of yesterday, ordered to engrossment, were taken up and passed, except that concerning French Spoliations, which at the instance of Mr. McDuffie, was postponed until Thursday next.

Mr. Archer called up the House bill, to purchase Greenough's work on Oregon—which, after some remarks against it by

Mr. Allen, who observed that the government of the United States had become an extensive book dealer, it was passed by a vote of 30 to 18.

A question arose upon the expediency of commencing the discussion of the joint resolutions of the House for the annexation of Texas to the United States.

Mr. Sevier said he would waive the call for the yeas and nays, and the subject was passed over until Thursday.—So on that day commences the “lug of war” in the Senate.

A joint resolution, authorizing the Postmaster General to contract with Railroad Companies, in certain cases, without advertising as required by law, was passed. The Senate then adj.

**HOUSE.**—On motion of Mr. Hopkins, of Virginia, the postage bill was read twice and referred to the committee on post offices and post roads.

The House then took up the orders of the day, which were the bills relating to the territories, reported yesterday in committee of the whole.

On motion of Mr. Levy, of Florida, the rules were suspended, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Davis, of Indiana, took the Chair. The subject before the Committee from yesterday, being the bill providing for the admission of Florida and Iowa into the Union, as States, was taken up.

The question was on the amendment offered by Mr. Duncan, which reduces the boundary fixed in the bill, for the State of Iowa, so as to make it embrace fewer square miles.

Mr. Vinton, of Ohio, supported the amendment in a very lucid speech.

The amendment of Mr. Duncan prevailed—limiting the boundary to the smaller area of territory.

The amendment having prevailed, a motion was made to strike out the proviso from the clause which admitted Florida into the Union. The proviso authorized the division of Florida into two States; and that the Constitution of that admitted first, declared that the Florida Legislature should not abolish slavery.

Mr. Hunt opposed the proviso and the Florida Constitution, and Mr. Levy of Florida, replied.

The proviso was struck out, by a vote of 87 to 56.

Mr. Morse of Maine, moved an amendment, that Florida should not be admitted until another General Assembly, in Florida, repeals the 16th article of the proposed constitution, which forbids the General Assembly to abolish slavery.

Mr. A. V. Brown of Tenn. opposed the amendment at length, when a motion was made that the Committee rise.

The vote was counted by tellers—yeas 76, nays 76.

The Chair—(Mr. Davis of Ia.)—voted in the affirmative, and the Committee rose and reported progress.

A motion was made to adjourn, upon which the yeas and nays were called.—The vote was—yeas 69, nays 84.

A resolution was then presented, to terminate all debate upon the bill before the House in twenty minutes.

Hon. John W. Smith, a Senator in Congress from the county of Bexar, died in Texas on the 12th ult.

**ATTEMPTED MURDER.**—Between 9 and 10 o'clock this morning, Samuel Goff, a colored man, in the employ of Mr. Remond, of the Marble Pillar, made an attempt to murder Robert Morgan, another colored man, also in Mr. Remond's employ. The parties had quarreled repeatedly within the last month, and some angry words having passed between them this morning, Goff drew a pistol from his pocket and fired deliberately at Morgan. The ball struck Morgan behind, and just below the ear, and lodged in the lower part of his head. Goff was immediately seized, and a double-barrelled pistol (one barrel still loaded) and bowie knife were found upon his person. Being taken before Justice Comstock, he avowed that he had intended to shoot Morgan, and that he was fully aware of the consequence of the act. Morgan still survives, and Dr. March, who examined and dressed the wound, is of opinion that he will recover. Goff has been committed for further examination.—*Albany Journal of Saturday.*

**New Haven, Feb. 10.**—The dead body of Mr. Lucius P. Osborn, a man about 30 years of age, was found lying near the Railroad bridge, about sunrise this morning, his head exhibiting most frightful wounds, evincing that the unfortunate man had met with a violent and untimely death. The body when found was completely frozen, and the blood that had flowed from the numerous wounds had deluged the head and frozen to such an extent that it was with great difficulty it was separated from the ground upon which it lay. The deceased was a stone quarry man by occupation, and left his boarding house in Fair Haven a few minutes after sunset last evening, since which nothing had been heard of him until found as above described. We learn that Andrew P. Potter and Charles Coe, keeper of a house at the head of Long wharf, in this city, have been arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the murder, and committed for further examination.

**MELANCHOLY.**—Capt. Kirwan, of the schooner “Thomas Hooper,” communicates the following.—On the second inst., while lying at anchor at the mouth of the Patuxent river, (Chesapeake Bay) the mate, Christopher R. Gayle, in company with Capt. Hammond, (late of the brig Motto, condemned at St. Thomas,) left the schooner in a small canoe to go on shore, and on their return with another man from the shore, named Lewis Sadler, the boat capsized and all three were drowned. Their hats and some other articles were afterwards picked up floating. Capt. Hammond belonged to the eastward, where he has a family residing, for whose information we are requested to state that his effects can be obtained by applying to, or addressing Mr. Thomas Pierce, Rowley's wharf.

**Baltimore American.**

**Melancholy Accident.**—The packet schooner Reeside, Capt. Langley, hence for New York with an assorted cargo of domestic goods, wine &c. went ashore in the severe storm on Tuesday night last, on Loyd's Neck, Long Island, and went to pieces. It is presumed that she struck on Eaton's Neck, and drifted to the westward. Her stern floated on shore, by which means her name was discovered, and her cargo was drifting about at last accounts. Nothing has been heard of the crew, and it is supposed all hands perished.—*Bas. Ad.*

**Accident on the Norwich Railroad.**—Mr. Rice, of Dayville, Conn., had his leg terribly crushed on the road last Wednesday, in consequence of the axle of the snow plough giving way and the plough falling backward upon him. He, with three others, were standing on the plough at the moment of the accident.—It was barely possible he might survive the injury, though not probable.

**FOUND GUILTY.**—In the case of Andrew Howard, who has been on trial during the past week, before the Court at Dover, N. H., the jury, on Friday last, after having been out about half an hour, returned into Court a verdict of *Guilty of Murder in the first degree.* A motion was immediately made in arrest of judgement, by Howard's counsel. The Dover Gazette says the effect of this motion will be at least, to defer sentence till next August term.

**AVAILANCES.**—On Friday evening a house situated at the foot of the Cape of Quebec, in Champlain street, and occupied as a blacksmith's shop, was crushed by the snow accumulated behind it. On Saturday evening, another house, not far from the above, belonging to Mr. Semple, and occupied by Mr. Matthew Miller, grocer, was buried in an avalanche from the rock. The clerk and a girl who were in the store were taken out immediately. The house of Mr. Barrie, and the butchery of Messrs. Semple and Stewart, have also been damaged, as well as the houses of Messrs. O'Donnell and Tierney, and a stable in which were two horses and a cow, which were taken out alive. A man and a child were taken out of O'Donnell's house. In Mr. Barrie's house two children were driven by the snow against a stove, and scalded by water which was boiling upon it.

[*Montreal Herald of Tuesday.*]

We learn, says the *Cahawba* (Ala.) Gazette, that a resolution has passed both branches of the Legislature, by a vote of two-thirds, to put the question of the removal of the seat of Government from Tuscaloosa, before the people in August next.

From the Watertown, Jefferson County, Journal Feb. 4.

**MOURNFUL TRAGEDY! DEATH OF MISS OAKS.**

We are this week called on to chronicle a most melancholy occurrence, which a young and amiable lady has been suddenly and unexpectedly torn from society and from life, and two highly respectable families thrown into deep mourning! On Thursday last, George Brown, son of Mr. Brown, residing in the village of Tylerville, had, with two or three other young men been out on a hunting excursion, and when on an eminence opposite the dwelling of Mr. Simeon Oak, and about 25 rods distant, saw his daughter Jane M., enter a small rear building, when one of the company said “shoot and frighten her,” upon which young Brown instantly, and without reflection, levelled his gun and fired at building, and unfortunately with fatal effect, the ball entering the young lady's shoulder, and passing through her back in a transverse direction, pierced her heart and lodged on the opposite side.

This was about two o'clock, P. M., but it was not until 7 in the evening that the family were made acquainted with the sad truth of their bereavement. A meeting of the families of Messrs. Oak and Brown, the next morning after the occurrence, who had for many years been on terms of the strictest friendship, was called by one of our citizens as one deep and heartfelt anguish.

An inquest was held by coroner M. J. dy, and the jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the above statement of facts. The funeral of the young lady was numerous attended on Sunday last.

Young Brown was examined by Judge Chittenden, and held to trial for manslaughter. He was admitted to bail in the sum of \$1000.

Miss Oaks was in the 19th year of age, amiable, accomplished, and the object of her parents and friends. Her father has clothed a neighborhood in sorrow the more so that it occurred under circumstances so peculiarly heart-rending.

**MELANCHOLY AND MURDEROUS AFFAIR.**

*Bellevue, Washington Co., Md. January 26th.*

Thomas Bird, Esq., is no more, died on Saturday evening last. His death was occasioned by a wound received at the hand of James Minor, who shot him through with a pistol ball Saturday evening, the 11th inst., at Udomin.

Mr. Bird had a law suit with Minor concerning which the latter was disposed, and had threatened to shoot which he actually accomplished, as stated above.

After committing the foul deed, made his escape, and is still at large. The friends of Bird have offered \$500 for Minor, if taken in the State, and \$1000 if apprehended out of the State.

He is about 31 years of age—5 feet 10 inches high—will weigh about 150 pounds—dark hair, and disposed of—blue eyes, and very florid complexion. His hair stands up straight before, like his forehead bare.

Mr. Bird was one of our most respectable citizens and has passed away, as universally lamented. He has a widow and six children to mourn sudden and distressing death.

**MURDER.**—The Mereugo Pattern the 18th inst. records a shocking murder committed in the vicinity of Delhi, a few days previous, upon the body of a young man named Bryant Korn jr. He was killed in the woods, and appears quite evident, by a runaway, whom he was attempting to arrest.

Individual suspected, “Big Harry” slave of Samuel Studwick, Esq., been secured, examined and fully committed, to take his trial for the murder, according to regular course of law.

From the Sav. Republican, Jan. 26.

**SHOOTING MURDER.**—Yesterday morning Capt. Stephen H. Timmons, one of the pilot-boats, was going down the river, on the pilot-boat *Marion*, when opposite Augustine creek, a negro man named a runaway, belonging to Mr. John Stearns, whom Mr. T. was taking to his master, into the skiff, which was alongside, purpose of making his escape. Capt. Timmons immediately sprang into the skiff, when the negro turned upon him with one of the oars, beat him to death of the crew of the pilot-boat, with no other small boat, were unable to render him any assistance.

After the negro had completed his work of death, he paddled the boat ashore, and made his escape. The pilot immediately came back to town for assistance, and a large force at once left for the recovery of the body. Before then, however, information was received from press, from Mr. W. L. Davis, stating that the skiff had drifted ashore opposite to Bluff, with the body of the unfortunate.

Capt. T. was a good citizen, a well-informed man, and we believe a worthy member of the Methodist Church. He was aged mother and a wife and several children to mourn his sudden and unexpected death.

From the same Feb. 1.—The boy who killed Capt. Timmons, was about half past five o'clock, yesterday noon. He was found concealed in a building on the premises of Mr. Stearns at the corner of Bay and Lincoln streets, a man named Henry Maroney, who several others, secured him. The boy was brought before Justice Rainford, and committed to jail to await his trial.

The shipping in port yesterday was colored at half mast in testimony of respect for the deceased.

An arrival at Galveston from the *Corpus Christi*, does not report the capture of Santa Anna.



# THE NEWPORT MERCURY, Newport.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15, 1845.

The New Hampshire Democratic State Convention, which met at Concord on the 12th inst., passed a resolution declaring that the Hon. John P. Hale had renounced the nomination previously conferred on him, and the same to be null and void, and another resolution nominating John Woodbury, Esq., of Exeter as a candidate for congress in his place. It is said Mr Hale intends to take the stump, offering himself as a candidate for Congress at the March election, in defiance of the proscription with which he has been visited for his vote on the Texas question.

APPOINTMENT.—George C. Shaw, Esq. has been appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, Navy Officer for this district vice Isaac Burdick, whose term has expired.

We incline to the opinion that Mr. Shaw, will make an excellent officer; we know of few men more likely to give general satisfaction in the office.

Capt. M. Conner, of the Revenue Cutter Jackson, has been transferred to the Lake service.—The command of the Jackson will devolve on Lieut. S. Cornell.

The Steamer IOLAS has resumed her trips between this place and Providence.

The Steamer NEPTUNE, which left here on Friday night of last week, has not since returned, and has probably suspended her trips for the present, on account of the obstruction of ice in Providence River.

The Hon. W. L. Dayton has been elected to the United States Senate from New-Jersey.

Gen. Cass is elected Senator from Michigan for 6 years from the 4th of March.

Payment of the Pennsylvania Interest. The business of paying the February interest on the State Loans commenced yesterday at the Pennsylvania Bank. It was a happy occasion for hundreds who had for years waited for their dues.—The scene in the Bank was one to excite the grateful sympathies of every beholder. Among the creditors who pressed within its walls to receive their own from the long delinquent debtor, were many women, whose care-worn faces then lighted up with the fulfilment of a hope so long deferred, were silent though powerful witnesses to the virtue of the act which called them thither. When we reflect upon the many anxious days and night of the infirm, the sick, the aged, the widow and the orphan, whose only dependence has been the faith of the State, and feel that once more their doubts, their fears are ended, and the means of their subsistence supplied, we cannot too ardently rejoice that justice is at last doing them. Surely if the legislators who have so manfully determined to do this justice, had been spectators of the gratitude and delight of the portion of its recipients who reside among us, they would have felt amply compensated for their resolution. We need not expatiate on benefits it will confer upon the State and country at large. Under a proper financial system, there can be no reasonable doubt that Pennsylvania will never again prove insolvent. The people are proud of her retrieved honor. They feel that in paying taxes they are obtaining value two fold for the burden; a good name and certain prosperity for their old and beloved Commonwealth. Now is the time for practical and energetic measures. If such are at once adopted, six months will be quite sufficient to supply the Treasury to the amount of claims then matured against it. As the work is begun, so let it proceed, with zeal, alacrity, and honest pride.—Phil. N. American 4th inst.

FRANCIA FOREVER!—We have received the following statement of the range of the thermometer for four successive days at Franconia, N. H., by which it will be seen that this celebrated place still retains its reputation for cold weather. The observations were made at 7 o'clock, A. M., at noon, and at 9 P. M. The mercury only twice rose above zero—(then but to 3 and 4 degrees)—and fell as low as 24 degrees below zero. The figures in the table indicate the degrees below zero, viz:

1845.	7 A. M.	M.	9 P. M.
Jan. 31,	16	4	5 clear.
Feb. 1,	18	0	7 do.
" 2,	20	0	10 do.
" 3,	24	3	10 do.
" 4,	10		

The above shows the mean temperature for four days to have been about ten degrees below zero.—Salem Register.

FLORIDA.—The St. Augustine (E. F.) news says that Capt. H. L. Thistle, U. S. Timber Agent, has recently seized a large quantity of Red Cedar and other Timber, at the mouth of Sawannee river, cut upon the public lands by certain individuals.

## Stupendous Project—Railway to the Pacific.

Among the most important projects of the day, we notice from its magnitude both in construction and effects, that of Mr. Whitney, a distinguished merchant of New York, which is about to be laid before Congress. This enterprise contemplates nothing less than the construction of a railroad, direct to the Columbia River, a distance of some two thousand miles, its terminus on that side to a point of debarkation for China. The road would cost fifty millions, and the time required for its completion would be twenty-five years. Eight days would convey a passenger from New York city to the termination of the track, and with the aid of steam vessels, twenty-five more would land him at Amoy in China. Thus the globe could be crossed within a month.

Through such agency we could command the Chinese market, and extend our commerce with South America, Mexico, India, and other places. In addition to this, we should secure the transportation of English trade—the shortest voyage between England and China ever made, was of eighty-five days, the average passage is nearly four months—and by this route a cargo from China via the United States would reach Liverpool within fifty days. All Mr. Whitney asks of government is a grant of sixty miles width of public land from one terminus of the road to the other, and for this a full consideration would be given in carrying mails, ammunition, stores, soldiers, and all public freight, free of charge.—New Haven Courier.

Case of the Bishop.—The standing committee of the diocese, Chief Justice Jones, Murray Hoffman and Gulian C. Verplanck, have published a report on the case, from which we learn that it is their opinion that the Right Rev. B. T. Onderdonk is still a bishop—that he has not been degraded or deposed from his diocese or order, and that the standing committee of New York, under the suspension, has become the regularly constituted ecclesiastical authority of the diocese.

The Oxford (Miss.) Organizer gives an account of the confession of a negro recently committed to jail there, that he, with another runaway, a few days before his arrest, murdered a traveller near the Tallahatchie river, and afterwards robbing him of his money, clothing, and the horse he rode, sunk the body in the river.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEB. 7.—Destructive Fire.—About half-past eight last evening, in the midst of the storm, when the wind was blowing a violent gale from the north-east, a fire broke out in the long row of stone buildings on the corner of Hill and Elizabeth streets, which, with nearly all their contents, were entirely destroyed. The east end of the building was occupied by M. L. Churchill as a tannery; the centre by Beardsle & Badger, as a sash factory and carpenter shop and the upper part as a chair factory, by E. Brown. Part of the building was owned by Mr. Churchill, upon which there was an insurance of \$1000. The remainder was owned by Mr. Brown, who had no insurance, neither upon his building or furniture. Messrs. Beardsle & Badger were insured \$2000. The total loss is variously estimated at from \$15,000 to \$20,000, of which only \$3000 was insured.

The severest part of the loss falls upon the numerous workmen, who, besides being thrown out of employment, lost all their tools. The machinery in the building was propelled by a steam engine, from which it is supposed the fire originated.—Democrat.

THE COMET.—The Comet, which after being visible to us a few days, is now expiring in the southwest, has been seen in much greater brilliancy, by our Southern neighbors. A gentleman of this city, residing at Marquette, (W. I.) about fourteen degrees north of the Equator, informs us that this comet was noticed there as long since as the last day of 1844. On the 2nd of January, at 7 P. M. the comet appeared about ten degrees high, S. W. by S. The tail was eight or ten degrees long; and the nucleus was as brilliant as a star of the third magnitude.

The observations made in this country, on the place of this comet, will doubtless be sufficient to determine its elements.—But earlier and longer continued observations have unquestionably been secured at some of the observatories south of the Equator.—New Haven Herald.

LATE FROM TEXAS.—The steamship New-York, Capt. Wright, arrived here late last night, in forty hours from Galveston. Major Donaldson, United States Charge to Texas, came passenger in her. We do not perceive that any thing has been done towards reconciling the misunderstanding between General Green and President Jones. A large annexation meeting has been held at San Felipe.

The Camanche Indians were not satisfied with the boundary run by Texas in their country.

New Orleans Bee, 31st ult.

A letter from Farmville, dated Feb. 11, says: Moses H. Sherman of Grafton, aged about thirty-eight years, left home on the 9th instant, with a horse and sleigh, to go to Boston. He was found about eight o'clock in the evening in Framingham, dead, supposed to have died in a fit.—Massachusetts Spy.

Lewis C. Levin, editor of the Philadelphia Sun, and member elect to Congress from Philadelphia, against whom there was an indictment for exciting to treason during the Southwark riots, in July last, was, on Wednesday, acquitted in the Court of Sessions, without the examination of a witness, Judge Jones stating the charges against Mr. L. to be illegal and unfounded.

## GREATEST DISCOVERY OF THE AGE—The Electro-Magnetic Light.

Messrs. J. Milton Sanders and John Starr, have at last succeeded with their Light; and a brilliant affair it is. We have had the pleasure of frequently witnessing their experiments with differently formed machines, having for their objects the production of this wonderful light. Yesterday we were invited to attend the last one to be made in the West. It proved successful. The apparatus with which their light is made is small, to allow of easy transportation. But it may be increased to an indefinite extent, and with its enlargement is the increase of the size of the light. From our own observation we should suppose the power of the light could not be increased. We never could conceive a light more brilliant. Though but the size of a pea, it is sufficient to illuminate quite a large room, and forbids the steady glance of the eye. The blaze of a candle twenty feet distant from the apparatus, and three feet from it casts upon the wall a thick shadow—so much more brilliant is "the light," though not one twentieth the size of the candle's flame. What will be the power of this light when increased to the size of a gas-light? We cannot conceive.

At a distance the light looks unlike other illuminations—throwing out most beautiful rays which, finely colored, spread magnificently from the bright centre. The inventors say they can make the light of different colors, and even alternately change from one color to another. The apparatus for producing this illumination displays great ingenuity, and a thorough knowledge of that portion of science which relates to the principles they have so successfully applied.

While witnessing that portion of its operation visible to the eye, we perceived a bar of iron revolving rapidly. The bar was tolerably heavy, and nearly a foot long—and can be made to revolve with a swiftness sufficient to fling itself, in spite of all workmanship to the contrary, from its pivots. It will go weeks with undiminished velocity; and without assistance, once started, from man. This we fancy, is an approach to perpetual motion. Cannot it be applied to locomotives, &c. The inventors say, without doubt, it can! Truly this is the age of inventions. They say also, that this latter will supersede many other artificial lights—what next? Once started the light may be said thereafter to be of no expense.

The apparatus will not cost a very great amount. It may be kept in one part of the city and the light produced by connection wires in any other part.—Or it may be stowed away in the cellar or garret, as it is not affected by dampness, and wires be carried to different rooms, to the neighboring sts. What it cannot do in any way of illuminations, remains yet to be discovered; what it can do, we may partially conceive. The inventors start immediately to Great Britain to secure their patents. [Cincinnati Mechanic.

The poor house in Salem W. J. was consumed by fire on Saturday morning of last week. When the conflagration took place there were more than one hundred inmates. Many of them were lunatics and chained in their cells, and had it not been for the humanity and courage of some of the keepers, who rushed into the cells and liberated these unfortunate persons at the risk of their lives, the tale told of this conflagration would have been most pitiable.

One lunatic who had been chained for twenty years, started back with alarm, when his rescuers entered his cell. On learning his danger, his excitement was beyond bounds and when he was freed from his chains, he dashed off with the utmost speed and has not been retaken. The other lunatics have been retaken and lodged temporarily in jail.—Prov. Journal.

Mr. Jones, the editor of the Madisonian has disposed of his half of that paper to Samuel Laughlin, ex-editor of the Nashville Union. We presume, therefore, that the Madisonian is to be the official organ of the new administration, notwithstanding the exertions which have been made to secure that position for the Globe. Dr. Miller, brother-in-law of the President, is ready to dispose of the other half, at a proper time.

Lieut. J. E. Blake, of the United States Topographical Engineer Corps, and party have completed a survey of a route for a Railroad across the Peninsula of Florida. They were at St. Augustine on the 25th.

Brighton Market, Monday, Feb. 10. Reported for the Boston Daily Advertiser.

At Market, 600 Beef Cattle, and 1000 Sheep, 25 Beef Cattle, exclusive of 50 which arrived too late, and are not included above, remain unsold.

Prices.—Beef Cattle.—The quality of the Cattle this week was better than last, without any advance in prices. We quote extra \$5 25 a 50; first quality \$5 a 25; second quality \$4 50 a 4 75; third quality \$4 a 4 50. Sheep.—Common Sheep from 1 75 to 2 25; Wethers from 2 25 to \$4 50. One lot very fine and heavy, \$5.

Smile.—None at market except a few ordinary, reported last week.

Weekly Almanac.

## Temperance Notice.

AT A Lecture on the subject of Temperance will be delivered before the Young Men's Temperance Society, at the Town Hall, on THURSDAY EVENING, Feb. 20th, by Mr. Wm. C. TENANT, commencing at 7 o'clock. By order of the President, B. H. TISDALE, Jr. Sec'y.

## NOTICE.

13 The subject of to-morrow evening's lecture in the Unitarian Church (at 6 1/2 o'clock) will be—"The 70 years' captivity of the Holy See."

READ AND BE ADVISED.—Gentle reader, do you ever have the Headache? "Yes." Purchase then, a box of Dr. Peters' Lozengers, and you will have no more, for, under cover of such a battery, should the genius of headache venture to attack you, a single Lozenge laid upon your tongue, will put him to flight in two minutes!

For Sale at No. 142 Thames Street by CHARLES N. TILLEY, Agent, Newport R. I.

## MARRIED.

In Middletown, on Thursday evening last, by the Rev. Mr. Leaver, Mr. Benjamin Helms Sheffield, to Mrs. Mary Ann Smith, (late of Housatonic, N. Y.) daughter of Mr. Eliphaz Barker, of Middletown.

In Providence, 9th, Mr. Arnold R. Austin to Miss Cynthia B. Manchester, both of P.

## DIED.

In this town, on the 5th inst. of consumption, Mrs. Lucy Maria, wife of Mr. William P. Peckham, and daughter of the late Mr. Gardner Chase, of Fall River, in the 23th year of her age.

On Sunday evening last, after a long and distressing illness, Mr. Caleb Corey, aged 61 years.

On Wednesday morning last, Miss Sarah Ann H. Mumford, daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Mumford, aged 44 years.

## Marine List.

### Port of Newport.

#### ARRIVED.

SATURDAY, February 8. Ships: Moses Brown, Nickerson, fm Providence; Willard, Miller, fm Bristol for New York.

Sailed—Brig May Flower, for New Haven.

#### SUNDAY, February 9.

Sailed: Volant, Hopkins, fm Rappahanock for Providence; E. B. Ashmead, Pike, and Richard Thompson, Horton, fm Richmond for Fall River.

Sailed: Del Norte, Belcher, fm Camden for New York.—Reports: Rebecca Rozana, fm Machias for New York; and Minerva, fm Portland for do., passed into Long Island Sound today. Sch'r Orleans, fm Boston for New York, got off Sandy Hook and was blown back to Tarpaulin Cove, 6th, with sails all blown to shreds, bulwarks stove, &c.

#### MONDAY, January 10.

Sailed: Helen, Jones, fm New Bedford for New York.

#### TUESDAY, February 11.

Sailed: Comstock, Lewis, fm Thru for New York; Empire, Smith, fm Boston for Norfolk; Neptune, Stearns, fm Baltimore for New York; Hoveana, Young, fm Fredericksburg for Boston.

Barque: Hiram W. Tyler, Tyler, 20 days fm Appalachicola for Providence, with cotton.

—Took a Black Island Pilot yesterday, by whom she was in the evening taken East of Brenton's reef and came very near being stranded on Eastern's Beach, but the Captain finding the Pilot was ignorant and the vessel getting into shoal water, ordered her to be brought to anchor, and this morning she was riding within a quarter of a mile of the beach, with the wind on shore, but not very fresh. As soon as her situation was known in town, a party of Newport Pilots went off in a small boat from the beach to her assistance and had just got her under way, when an officer and boat's crew, with a boat, had been sent over to the beach from the Rev. Cutler Jackson, boarded and assisted in working her out of her dangerous position, and brought her safe into this Harbor.

#### WEDNESDAY, January 12.

Cleared—Brig Tasso, Burdick, N. Orleans. Sailed—Brig Hiram W. Tyler, for Bristol.

#### THURSDAY, February 13.

Sailed: Orleans, Doane, fm Elizabeth City for Providence; Lapwing, Curtis, 15 days fm do for do.

## Marine Memoranda.

Barque Empress, Bennett was advertised at Charleston 24, for this port and Providence 7th.

Brig Robert Bruce, Gardner, sailed from Savannah, 30th for Havana.

Sch'r Warsaw, Burdick, c'd at Charleston 3d for Cuba.

Sch'r Sagadahock, Downs, hence, arr at Savannah, 3d.

Sch'r Fair Play, Rogers, 5 days from Norfolk for Boston, arr at Tarpaulin Cove 7th, with loss of fore yard, and leaking 800 strokes per hour.

Sch'r "Saralann," Stevenson, reported to be an American vessel of 60 tons, arr at Buenos Ayres Oct. 24th from Patagonia.—Probably the sch'r Sarah Ann, of this port, which went out south, sailing, under the command of Capt. Smiley, who is now in the brig America.

Arr at New Orleans 2d, ship Wm. Engs, Boss, fm Havana.

Arr at New Bedford 10th, ship Sharon, Smith, N. W. Coast, Maui, Sept. 29th, 200 bbls sp. 1050 do wh oil.

Also arr at do 10th, ship South Boston, Crowell, N. W. Coast, Maui, Sept. 24, 2000 bbls (175 sp) oil, and 26,000 lbs bone.

Also arrived at do, 12th, ship Ansel Gibbs, West, N. W. Coast, Maui, Sept. 25th, full cargo, 2100 bbls, wh, 350 do sp oil and 23,000 lbs bone, for Fairhaven.

On Japan, June 15th, Brig Damon, Potter, of this port, 400 bbls.

## FOR SALE or TO LET.

THE Farm pleasantly situated in Portsmouth, about 5 miles from Newport, adjoining the Glen farm at the North, the East river on the East, land of Mrs. Brown on the South, and Stephen Slocum, Mrs. Wilcox, and the Glen on the West, containing about 150 acres, now occupied by Mr. Benedict Peckham. For further information apply to

JOHN J. ALLAN.

Newport, Feb. 8.

## For Newport & Providence.

### The Steamer

### IOLAS,

CAPT. R. F. WOOLSEY.

Will leave Providence and Newport, as follows until further notice: Leave Newport every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

Returning, leave Providence every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning at 10 1/2 o'clock. Fare 75 cents.

Freight of all descriptions taken at a moderate price.

N. B. The Iolas will be in readiness to tow vessels at all times. [Feb. 15.]

## NOTICE.

THE subscribers, while rebuilding and making alterations in their present stand, will occupy (for 3 or 4 weeks.) Store No. 159, about six doors south, on the opposite side of the street, formerly kept by Edward A. Sherman, where they respectfully invite their friends and customers.

WM. C. COZZENS & CO.

Feb. 15.

## Havana Oranges.

850 SWEET HAVANA ORANGES, of the first quality, in prime order. Just received and for sale by the hundred, or at retail at No. 142 Thames st. by

CHARLES N. TILLEY.

Feb. 15.

## Proposals for COAL.

SEALED PROPOSALS will be received through the Post Office in Newport until the 20th of this month, for supplying the Troops stationed at Fort Adams, R. I., with 100 tons of clean red ash. PRACH ORANGE COAL, broken and sifted.

The Coal to be delivered and piled on such part of the public ground as the Assistant Quarter Master may designate.

One fourth, at least to be delivered by the 1st of March, the remainder by the 1st of April 1845.

Bonds will be required for the faithful performance of the contract; two good and sufficient sureties to accompany the proposals.

WM. H. FRENCH, Lt. 1st Ar., & A. A. Qr. Master.

Feb. 15, 1845.

## NEW FAMILY MAGAZINE.

### PROSPECTUS.

In these days of magazine trash, the attempt to establish another monthly journal seems at first glance unwarranted. That department of literature is apparently already filled to repletion. More monthlies are now regularly issued than are read. Among them all, however, it is a remarkable fact, that there is scarcely one which contains within itself merit sufficient to carry it down the tide of popular favor, independent of the tricks and subterfuges of the trade. In a community so boastful as our own of its high intellectual standing, this is a matter of surprise.

The subscribers believe that a Magazine, conducted on right principles and made to depend solely on its intrinsic worth for success, will meet with liberal patronage. They have therefore determined to try the experiment; and the first number of a NEW FAMILY MAGAZINE will be issued on the 15th of January, and after that regularly on the first of every month. It is intended to be, as its name implies, a FAMILY MAGAZINE; the excel-

lence of the contents of which shall not only insure the reading of it, but incite to perspiration. The proprietors are determined that the matter shall be of the very highest order, selected with much care and discrimination, by a competent editor, from the various departments of ENGLISH and AMERICAN LITERATURE, and consisting of History, Biography, Travels, Remarkable Adventures by Sea and Land, Descriptions of Natural and Artificial Curiosities, accounts of the progress of the Arts and Sciences; and in fact every thing that may be of interest to the general reader, will be laid under contribution for this object.

No plates will be given; but wood cuts will be introduced to illustrate the text, from time to time, as occasion may require.

The New England Family Magazine, will be printed with beautiful type, on fine paper. It will contain 48 pages monthly, making a volume of 576 pages of valuable and useful matter each year.

Terms of Subscription, one dollar and fifty cents per annum, in advance, or two dollars, if not strictly paid within the year.

The FAMILY MAGAZINE, will be furnished to Clubs at the following prices:

Three Copies, One Year, Four Dollars. Five do " " Six do. Ten do " " Ten do.

Agents will be supplied with the above work at a liberal discount. All orders should be addressed

BRADBURY, SODEN & CO.

No. 12 School Street.

BOSTON.

## Court of Probate, Newport, Feb. 14, 1845.

PETER P. REMINGTON, administrator on the estate of

PELEG WEAVER,

late of Newport, Painter, dec'd, with the will annexed, presents his final account on said estate, with request for notice to be given that the consideration thereof for allowance and for an order of distribution of the balance of said account will be at a Court of Probate to be held at the Town Hall in Newport, on the 1st Monday in March next at 9 o'clock a. m. All persons interested therein are notified to appear at said time and place and be heard, and this notice to be published three successive weeks in the NEWPORT MERCURY.

B. B. HOWLAND, Probate Clerk.

## Guardian's Notice.

THE subscriber having been chosen by Will. I. Henry Peabody, a minor over the age of fourteen years, son of Benjamin and Abby Peabody, late of Newport, both dec'd, guardian of the person and estate of said Wm. I. Peabody, and approved by the Court of Probate of Newport, and having been appointed by said Court guardian of the person and estate of Sarah Catherine Peabody, a minor under the age of fourteen years, daughter of said Benjamin and Abby Peabody, and having given bond as the law directs, hereby gives notice thereof, and all persons having claims against said wards are notified to exhibit the same to him within six months from the date hereof. JEREMIAH PEABODY, Jux.

Newport, Feb. 15.—Gw.

## Auctions.

### Administrator's Sale of

### REAL ESTATE.

Will be sold at Public Auction, on the premises on the 15th day of February at 11 o'clock, A. M., by virtue of authority from the Court of Probate of the town of Newport:—

ALL the right title and interest which Mary Smith, late of Newport, had at the time of her decease, in or to a lot of land and wharf with a dwelling house and stores thereon, situated in said Newport on the West side of Thames street; formerly owned by John C. Scott, dec'd, and now occupied by Mrs. Seabury as a boarding house. Conditions made known at the time and place of Sale.

CHARLES GYLES, Admr.

Newport, Jan. 11.

## REAL ESTATE For Sale.

To be sold at Auction on TUESDAY, the 15th day of February next, at 11 o'clock, A. M., on the premises, by virtue of a grant of the General Assembly:—

ALL the right, title and interest of Lydia I. Brown, Abraham T. Brown, and Lucy E. Brown, minor children of Abraham Brown, late of Middletown, dec'd, in and to a certain tract of land, situated in said Middletown, containing about fifteen acres with an Orchard and a Dwelling house and other buildings thereon. Bounded Northerly partly on the road and partly on land of Fardon Brown, Easterly partly on the road and partly on land of Joseph Weaver and the heirs of Thomas Weaver, dec'd, Southerly on land of said Joseph Weaver and the heirs of Thomas Weaver, and Westerly on land of the said Fardon Brown.

Also, at the same time and place will be sold at Public Auction all the right, title and interest of Lucy Brown (widow of said Abraham) William W. Brown, Charles P. Brown, Edward H. Hubbard and Mary B. Hubbard (heirs at law of said Abraham,) in and to the above described premises.

Conditions at the time and place of sale.

CHARLES F. BROWN

Attorney for Lucy Brown, Guardian of the above minors, and Attorney for W. W. Brown, E. H. Hubbard, and M. B. Hubbard.

Middletown, Jan. 17, 1845.

## Administrators Sale of

## REAL ESTATE.

By virtue of a decree of the Court of Probate of Little Compton, will be sold at Public Auction on the premises, on THURSDAY, the 13th of March next, at one o'clock, P. M. (if fair if not the next fair day, except Sunday):—

THE right of Reversion or right devised to the residuary Legatee in the homestead Farm of the late William Wilbour, Esq. dec'd, containing about forty acres, with a good two story dwelling house, and other buildings thereon standing and a good orchard, situated on the west of the road from Tiverton to Secant Point, and bounded East on the road, South and West on land of William Gray, and North on land of Philip Wilbour, 2d.

Also, immediately after, the right of possession for five years from the 25th of March next in the Farm owned and devised as above, situated East of the Road and of the above described premises, containing about twenty two acres of land with three fourths of a dwelling House and other buildings thereon.

Likewise, a lot of salt meadow situated at the head of the Marsh on the east of the creek, containing about two acres, possession of the two last named lots given on the 25th of March next. Conditions of sale at the time and place.

CLARKE WILBOUR,

Administrator with the will annexed, on estate of Wm. Wilbour, dec'd.

Feb. 8.

## Administrator's Notice.

THE subscriber hereby gives public notice that he has been appointed Administrator on the estate of

JOHN BROWNELL,



## Agricultural.



### BUTTER.

There are few departments of rural industry, in which there is so much room for improvement, as in the business of converting milk into butter.—This will be admitted, readily, by all who reflect on the very small proportion, which really pure, well-flavored butter bears, to the whole quantity exposed for sale in the common market, or to that which is produced in the country.

The defective quality of butter arises no less from want of care and skill in the management of the milk—probably much more from that cause, than from any effect upon the milk, resulting from the difference in the pasture and food of the cow; although the latter has, doubtless, a powerful influence.—So sensible are they of this influence in Scotland, that we observe among other curious objects, never thought of in this country, a premium has been offered there for the best essay on the influence of food on milk and butter. We cannot but suppose, that the superiority of the butter in the Philadelphia market, arises, in a great degree from the nature of the pasture; consisting of long established 'English grass' meadows. He who will take the trouble to make the calculation, will be struck with the increase of national wealth, which would accrue from an improvement in the quality of our butter, from whatever cause, that should add a few cents to its price, without saying anything about the increase of the quantity which could be easily obtained by more careful milking, and a better system of dairy management.

N. Y. Albion.

**DISEASE OF TREES.**—Our correspondent, in his last letter from Michigan, mentioned that fruit was very scarce and high in the West this year, in consequence of a disease similar to that which has fallen upon the potatoes, having affected the fruit trees. We find by the Western papers that the disease under which the fruit labors there, is what is known here as the fire blight, and that it has fastened the past season upon nearly all the fruit trees in that region. It does not appear to have made any ravages north of Pennsylvania, but is heard of in that State, in Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Tennessee, and generally west of the Alleghany range.

In Indiana, Ohio and Michigan, the blight has prevailed to such an extent, as to spread dismay among cultivators—destroying entire collections; taking half the trees in large orchards; affecting both young and old trees, whether grafted or seedlings, in soils of every kind. Many have seen the labor of years cut off in a single season, by an invisible destroyer, against which none could guard; because, in the conflicting opinion, none were certain whether the disease was atmospheric, insect or chemical.—[Newburyport Herald.]

**A TEXIAN PRAIRIE.**—In the direction in which we had ridden out, the grass was very abundant and the flowers scarce; whereas the part of the prairie in which I now found myself, presented the appearance of a perfect flower-garden, with scarcely a square foot of green to be seen. The most variegated carpet of flowers I ever beheld lay unrolled before me; red, yellow, violet, blue, every color, and every tint was there; millions of the most magnificent prairie roses, tube-roses, asters, dahlias, and fifty other kinds of flowers. The finest artificial garden in the world would sink into insignificance when compared with this prairie of nature's own planting. My horse could hardly make his way through the wilderness, and I for a time remained lost in admiration of this scene of extraordinary beauty. The prairie in the distance looked as if clothed with rainbows, that waved to and fro over its surface.

Texas, from Blackwood.

## LEGAL NOTICES.

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND &c.  
NEWPORT, ss.—Clerk's Office, Supreme Court.

WHEREAS Margaret Moffet, of the Town and county of Newport wife of William E. Moffet of said Newport, manufacturer, hath this day filed her petition, praying for certain reasons therein, that the bonds of marriage between her and the said William may be dissolved; and whereas the said Margaret hath also filed her affidavit that the residence of the said William is to her unknown. Notice is hereby given to the said William to appear if he shall see fit, at our Supreme Court, next to be holden at Newport, within and for the County of Newport, on the first Monday of March 1845, to respond to said petition.

WM. GILPIN, Clerk.

## CLERK'S OFFICE.

Court of Probate, Newport, Feb. 6th, 1845.

THE Commissioners report of Claims against the estate of WM. M. ALLSTON, late of Newport, Esq. dec. was presented for allowance with request that notice be given that the same will be acted upon, at a Court of Probate to be holden at the Town Hall in Newport, on the 1st Monday in March next, at 9 o'clock, a. m., and that notice thereof be given 3 weeks in the Newport Mercury for all persons interested to appear at said time and place and be heard.

B. B. HOWLAND, Probate Clerk.

Court of Probate, Newport, Feb. 7th, 1845.

THE Executor of the estate of SAMUEL WATSON, late of Newport, dec. presents his first account on said estate, for allowance, with request that notice may be given for all persons interested to appear at a Court of Probate, to be holden at the Town Hall in Newport, on the 1st Monday in March next, at 9 o'clock, a. m., and object to the settlement of said account if they see cause, and that previous notice be given thereof three weeks in the Newport Mercury.

B. B. HOWLAND, Probate Clerk.

Court of Probate, Newport, Feb. 7th.

GEORGE ENGS, guardian of NANCY STEWART, of Newport, single woman, presents his guardianship account on her estate for allowance, with request that notice may be given that the same will be taken into consideration at a Court of Probate to be holden at the Town Hall in Newport on the first Monday in March next at 9 o'clock, a. m., all persons interested are notified to appear at said time and place if they see cause and be heard, and previous notice is hereby given by publishing the same 3 weeks in the Newport Mercury.

B. B. HOWLAND Probate Clerk.

### Executrix's Notice.

THE subscriber sole Executrix of the last will and testament of POLLY GRELEA, late of Newport, Spinster dec. having given bond to the Court of Probate as the law directs, hereby requests all persons having claims against said estate to present them to her for adjustment, and all those indebted to said estate to make immediate payment.

MARY SHERMAN, Executrix.  
Newport, Feb. 8.

Court of Probate, Little Compton, Dec. 9.

THE subscribers hereby give public notice that they have been appointed joint Executors of the last will and testament of

SANFORD ALMY,

late of Little Compton dec. and have accepted of said trust, and qualified themselves according to law. They therefore request all the debtors and creditors of said Estate to make settlement with them without delay.

SANFORD ALMY, } Executors,  
JOHN E. ALMY, }

### Commissioners Notice.

THE subscribers having been appointed by the Hon. Court of Probate for the town of Portsmouth, Commissioners on the estate of

SOUTHWICK IRISH,

late of said Portsmouth, deceased, represented insolvent, we hereby give notice to the creditors of said estate, that they must present their claims to either of the commissioners within six months from the date hereof; and that we will meet at the house of Joseph Childs on the first Saturday in March next, at 2 o'clock, p. m., for the purpose of examining and determining on their several claims.

JOSEPH CHILDS, } Commissioners,  
JOHN CORY, }  
JOHN BOYD, }

All persons indebted to said estate, are requested to make immediate payment to PHEBE IRISH, Executrix.

Portsmouth, Sept. 9, 1844.

### Assignee's Notice.

THE undersigned having received from WILLIAM A. COGGESHALL, and DAVID M. COGGESHALL, Jun., both of the town and county of Newport, Cabinet Makers and partners under the firm of W. A. & D. M. Coggeshall, an assignment of all their property for the benefit of their creditors; those having demands against the said Coggeshall's are requested to present them, and those indebted to make immediate payment to

JONATHAN T. ALMY, Assignee.

Newport, Oct. 1, 1844.

### Commissioners' & Administrators' Notice.

THE Subscribers having been appointed by the Court of Probate for the town of Newport, Commissioners to receive and examine the claims against the estate of CHARLES CASTOFF, late of Newport, Mariner, deceased, and six months from this date, being allowed by said Court for the creditors to present and prove their respective claims, we will attend at the house of Charles E. Hammett on the last Saturdays of October, November and December at 2 p. m., for the purpose of deciding on such claims.

CHARLES E. HAMMETT, } Comm'rs.  
PETER P. REMINGTON, }  
WM. J. HOLY, }

All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to CLARKE BURDICK, Adm'r.

Newport, July 1, 1844.

### Court of Probate, Little Compton, Jan. 13th

AT this Court an Instrument in writing purporting to be the last will and testament of

NATHANIEL TAYLOR,

late of Little Compton, dec. was presented for examination and approval. It is ORDERED, that the same be received and the consideration of the examination & approval thereof is referred to a Court of Probate to be held at the Town Hall in said Little Compton, on the 2d Monday of February next at 1 o'clock, p. m., and that legal notice of the same be given by publishing a copy of this Order three several times in the Newport Mercury, previous to the sitting of said Court, that all persons interested may appear at said time and place and be heard.

By order—witness

OTIS WILSON, Probate Clerk,

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, &c.

NEWPORT, ss.—Clerk's Office, Supreme Court.

WHEREAS Joshua Dwelly, of Tiverton, in said County hath this day filed his petition praying for certain reasons contained therein, that said Court would extend to him the benefit of the act made and passed for the relief of insolvent debtors.

Notice is hereby given to the Creditors of the said Joshua Dwelly, that they be and appear (if they see fit) before our Supreme Court, next to be holden at Newport, within and for the County of Newport, on the first Monday of March 1845, then and there to respond to said petition.

WM. GILPIN, Clerk.

Feb. 3, 1845.

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, &c.

NEWPORT, ss.—Clerk's Office, Supreme Court.

WHEREAS William Wilcox, husband of Sarah B. Wilcox, of Tiverton, in said County, hath this day filed his petition, praying for certain reasons contained therein, that the bonds of marriage between him and the said Sarah, may be dissolved.

Notice is hereby given to the said Sarah that she be and appear (if she shall see fit) before our Supreme Court, next to be holden at Newport, in and for the County of Newport, on the first Monday of March 1845, then and there to respond to said petition.

WM. GILPIN, Clerk.

Feb. 5, 1845.

## STATE OF RHODE ISLAND, &c.

NEWPORT, ss.—Clerk's Office, Supreme Court.

WHEREAS Pamela Davis, wife of Daniel H. Davis, of Tiverton, in said County, hath this day filed her petition, praying for certain reasons contained therein, that the bonds of marriage between her and the said Daniel, may be dissolved.

Notice is hereby given to the said Daniel, that he be and appear (if he shall see fit) before our Supreme Court, next to be holden at Newport, in and for the County of Newport, on the first Monday of March 1845, then and there to respond to said petition.

WM. GILPIN, Clerk.

Feb. 7, 1845.

## Lists of Voters for 1845.

THE Town Council of the town of Newport, will meet for the purpose of preparing the lists of Voters required by the 14th Section of the election law, at the Town Hall in Newport on Monday, Feb. 17th inst., at 10 o'clock, a. m. Persons claiming to vote, whose names were not upon the voting lists last year must appear or furnish evidence of their age and residence.

By order,

B. B. HOWLAND, Town Clerk.

Feb. 8, 1845.

## Administrators' Notice.

THE undersigned having been appointed by the Court of Probate of the Town of Newport, administrators on the estate of their father, Audley Clarke late of Newport, dec., hereby request all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment to either of them, and those having demands to present them for settlement.

PETER CLARKE, } Adm'rs.  
WM. A. CLARKE, }  
EDWARD CLARKE, }

Newport, April 4th, 1844. 11.

## Administrators' Notice.

THE subscriber hereby gives notice that he has been duly appointed Administrator on the estate of FELIX PECKHAM, late of Middletown, dec. & has taken upon himself that trust by giving bonds as the law directs. All persons having demands against the said estate are requested to present the same for settlement; and all persons indebted to make immediate payment to.

ABNER PECKHAM, Administrator.

Middletown, Dec. 20, 1844.

## Commissioners' & Administrators' Notice.

THE subscribers having been appointed by the Hon. Court of Probate of the town of Newport, commissioners to receive, examine and allow the claims of the Creditors of the estate of GILES BARNEY, late of Newport, & 6 months from this date being allowed by said Court for the creditors to present and prove their claims before said Commissioners, we will attend at the house of Peter P. Remington, on the 2d Saturdays in March, April and May next at 2 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of deciding on such claims as may be presented against said estate.

CLARKE BURDICK, } Comm'rs.  
JAMES LAWTON, }  
ANDREW WINKLOW, }

All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to PETER P. REMINGTON, Administrator.

Newport, Nov. 9, 1844.

## Administrators' Notice.

THE subscriber hereby gives public notice that he has been appointed Administrator with the will annexed, on the estate of

ROBERT BROWN,

late of Little Compton, dec. and has accepted of said trust, and qualified himself according to law, he therefore requests all the debtors and creditors of said estate to make settlement with him without delay.

JOHN B. HOWLAND,

Administrator, with the Will annexed.

Little Compton, Jan. 15.

## FOR SALE.

500 bbls Oil Casks, 2200 lbs. of Bread, that has been a short Whaling voyage. Also, a first rate CHEROKEE, nearly new, by

SAMUEL BARKER,

108 Thames street.

Newport, Feb. 11

## Administrator's Notice.

THE subscriber having been appointed by the Hon. Court of Probate of the town of Newport, administrator on the estate of

GILES BARNEY,

late of Newport, dec. requests all persons having claims against said estate to present them for settlement, and all indebted to make immediate payment to PETER P. REMINGTON, Adm'r.

Newport, Oct. 12, 1844.

## North River Hay.

Store 300 Bundles of prime quality. Enquire of

J. S. MUNRO,

R. I. U. Bank Building.

Newport, Nov. 16, 1844—3m.

## TO LET.

For one year from the 25th March, 1845, The Farm belonging to the subscriber, lying partly in Portsmouth, 4 1/2 miles from Newport, containing 112 acres. Said farm has a large double dwelling house, wash house, milk room, crib and grain house, and a large, new double barn, and a water grist mill, in good grinding order, also two full grown green orchards, in full bearing. Said Farm will be let on reasonable terms. For further information apply to

ROBINSON POTTER.

Newport, Feb. 1.

## No Monopoly.

Independent Line

FOR NEW YORK.

Fare—\$2.00.

## THE SLENDID STEAM BOAT

NEPTUNE,

CAPTAIN ROLLINS.

Will leave Newport for New York TUESDAY EVENING, about 8 o'clock.

Regular days for leaving Newport for New York Tuesdays and Fridays.

The NEPTUNE will leave Newport for Providence every Tuesday and Friday morning, on her arrival from N. York at about 5 o'clock.

The Neptune is fitted with spacious cabins, elegant state rooms, and every worthy the patronage of the travelling public.

Merchandise generally, 5 cents per foot. Boots, shoes, bonnets and hats, 4 cents per foot.

The Company are prepared to commute for the year 1845.

A new boat, 300 feet in length, will be added to the line the coming spring.

Goods consigned to the agent at Newport, will be shipped free of commissions or storage. For further information, apply to

CHAS. N. TILLEY,

No. 142, Thames street.

Newport, Feb. 1, 1845—1f.

## TO LET.

THE House in spring street, formerly occupied by David Bowen, possession will be given on the 1st of April next or sooner if desired. For terms apply to

P. P. REMINGTON.

Jan. 11.

## NEWPORT

DYE-HOUSE.

John H. Clegg

SILK, COTTON, and WOLLEN DYER.

WOULD respectfully inform his friends and the public, that he has taken the DYE HOUSE, formerly occupied by J. Viner, situated in Tanner street, where he is prepared to dye and finish at 10 days notice in the best manner, the following articles, viz:

Broadcloths, Silks,

Cassimeres, Crapes,

Merinos, Sattins,

Circassians, Pongees,

Bombazines, Hosiery,

Gloves, &c. &c.

Also, permanent colors on carpet yarns, merino, circassian, bombazine, and crape dresses; gentlemen's woolen garments, such as dress, frock and great coats, suits, vests, and pantaloons—died and pressed without ripping.

He will also clean gentlemen's woolen garments of every description, in a neat style—merino and Cashmere shawls cleaned and whitened, without injury to the border—carpets and woolen table cloths cleaned also.

All articles left at the Dye House in Tanner Street, or the following Agents will receive prompt attention.—Mrs. Ann M. Eddy, next north of the Perry Factory. A. M. Thomas, Wickford, John Hedley, Portsmouth.

February 19, 1842.

## Flour, Buckwheat, Butter, &c. &c.

THE subscriber has recently returned from New York with an additional supply, added to his former Western purchase, viz:—

Family Flour,

Buck W. Flour,

Goshen & Western Butter,

Cheese by the box & cask,

Leaf Lard in small kegs,

Spits & Pippin Apples, per bbl.

Flourbark Nuts, per bbl or bushel,

Damson Plums, by bushel &c.,

Fresh Raisins by the box,

Fresh Figs in small drums,

Brown Sugar,

White Beans by the Bushel, &c.

For sale at No. 9, Deven's Wharf, by

HENRY POTTER,

Newport, Nov. 30.

## NEW

TIN and SHEET IRON WARE

Establishment.

THE subscribers have taken the store No. 127 Thames Street, nearly opposite the store of Messrs Finch & Engs, and have entered into co-partnership under the name of

Coggeshall & Bliss,

for the purpose of manufacturing every description of Tin and Sheet Iron Ware.—They will sell on REASONABLE TERMS to suit the times.

They have on hand a lot of plain Japan and Britannia Ware. They also intend keeping on hand an assortment of Sheet and Cast Iron STOVES of the most approved patterns.

07 N. B. All kinds of Job Work in the above line done to order.

A share of public patronage is solicited with the assurance that no pains will be spared to give satisfaction to all who may favour them with orders in their line of business.

FREEBORN COGGESHALL,

WILLIAM H. BLISS,

Newport, Aug. 10, 1844.—1f.

## Marine and Fire Insurance

THE AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY, Providence, R. I. continue to insure against Loss or Damage by Fire, on Cotton, Woollen, and other Manufactures, Building and Merchandise, and also against MARINE RISKS, on favorable terms.—The capital stock is

\$150,000.

All paid in and well invested.—Directors elected June 6th, 1842:—

Solomon Townsend,

Tully D. Bowen,

William Rhodes,

Robert R. Stafford,

Amos D. Smith,

Resolved Waterman,

Shubael Hutchings,

Ebenezer Kelley,

Persons wishing for Insurance are requested to direct their applications (which should be accompanied with a particular description of the property) per mail, to the resident and Secretary of the Company, and the same will meet with prompt attention.

Applications for Insurance may be made in Newport to GEORGE BOWEN, Agent.

WILLIAM RHODES, President.

ALLEN O. PECK, Sec'y.

American Insurance Co's. }

Office, July 14, 1842.

## FOR SALE.

A very pleasantly situated and valuable FARM, lying on the East side of this Island, and 4 1/2 miles from Newport, being partly in Middletown and partly in Portsmouth, containing about 110 acres of excellent Land; it is well fenced with stone wall.—The Farm has on it a double two story dwelling house, a good wash room chaise and milk house, crib and grain house, and a large double barn; all the above buildings are in good repair—there is also a well of good soft water, and a water grist mill that will rent for \$60 per year, and is in excellent